



**Snohomish County**  
Planning and Development  
Services

Visit us at :

2nd Floor Robert J. Drewel Bldg.  
3000 Rockefeller Avenue  
Everett, WA 98201

425-388-3311  
1-800-562-4367, ext. 3311



**ONLINE INFORMATION**  
[www.snohomishcountywa.gov/1190](http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/1190)



This Assistance Bulletin only applies to property within unincorporated Snohomish County and does not apply to property within incorporated city limits.

## Fire Damage Repair

Revised March 2015

[WWW.SNOCO.ORG](http://WWW.SNOCO.ORG)

**Keyword: Assistance Bulletins**

### **Q: Do I need to get a building permit for repair work following a fire on my property?**

**A:** Possibly. When a structure on your property has been damaged by fire, you will need a building permit for the repair work if it involves repair to the structural members, the emergency escape openings, or impacts compliance with the Washington State Energy Code.

### **Q: Do I need an inspection?**

**A:** Possibly. An inspection is usually required before a repair permit is issued. The inspection will determine the damage and what repairs are needed to bring the building into conformity with building codes. If a structural engineer has been hired and provides documentation of damage and repair, an inspection report will not be required.

### **Q: How do I schedule an inspection?**

**A:** To request an inspection, take the property address and Assessor's property tax number to the Planning & Development Services (PDS) permit counter on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Robert J. Drewel Building, 3000 Rockefeller, in downtown Everett. Counter personnel will help you complete the inspection report form. They will then collect the inspection report fee. The inspection report will determine the type of repair permit required. A copy of the report will be mailed to you before you apply for the permit to repair damages. The fee is \$120.00 plus a 3% technology surcharge (\$3.60) for a total of \$123.60

### **Q: Will I need building plans to get a damage repair permit?**

**A:** Some minor repair permits do not require plans and are issued "subject to field inspection," listing the conditions of the inspection report. A detailed site plan may be required. Inspections which reveal more extensive damage normally require plans for the repair permit.

### **Q: How much will the permit cost?**

**A:** Building permit fees are based on the dollar value of the structural elements on the contract bid, which should be submitted when applying for the repair permit.

This bulletin is intended only as an information guide. The information may not be complete and is subject to change. For complete legal information, refer to Snohomish County Code.

**Q: What if the building is completely destroyed?**

**A:** Buildings that are a total loss do not need an inspection report. The replacement residence will be processed as a “new residence.” NOTE: If the existing foundation is to be used for the replacement residence, a structural engineer’s report of adequacy may be required. Permit and plan check fees will be based on the square footage of the new structure.

**Q: What do I need to include with my building permit application?**

**A:** You will need to submit the following items:

- Completed residential application form;
- Address and Assessor parcel tax account number;
- One set of plan drawings (if required by building inspector);
- One plot plan no larger than 8-1/2” x 14”;
- A copy of the inspection report; and
- Completed Health District Clearance form if the property is served by a septic system.

**Q: What items will be required for the project review?**

**A:** Your project review may include the following:

- Plan examination;
- Snohomish Health District review (if the property is served by a septic system);
- Flood Hazard review (if the property is in a flood hazard area); and/or
- A site review.

**Q: What if my building has been damaged by flood, landslide, wind, or snow?**

**A:** Contact PDS counter personnel for further information. Generally, repair or replacement of buildings in these situations will be similar to the process outlined above, but variations can occur. If you have any questions, please call (425) 388-3311.